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Montigo draws corporates to Batam

Gerardine Donough-Tan | 5 December 2013

Indonesian island resort hosting more company retreats

Nongsa, at the northeastern end of the Indonesian island of Batam, has been enjoying a new lease of life with the opening of **Montigo Resorts, Nongsa** in late 2012. The addition of meeting and event facilities this August is now drawing corporate groups to the resort, not just weekend leisure tourists from Singapore.

A member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts, the 12-hectare property has 88 luxurious beachfront villas, many with private plunge pools, and unobstructed views of the South China Sea (right). Nongsa is 20km from Singapore or 30 minutes by ferry from Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal.

Function capacity ranges from 12 people in the Manado Boardroom to 220 delegates seated theatre style or 150 people at a banquet in the Madura Ballroom. The mid-sized Moyo Room sits 24 participants in U-shape or classroom layout and 30 people in banquet set-up.



For outdoor events, two lawns each take 300 people for cocktail receptions while big groups can pack in up to 600 people seated for a meal at Tiigo Bar and Beach Club's Sand Park, which is also a popular venue for creative team building activities.

Most planners choose either half-day or full-day teambuilding activities. The Work and Play meeting package promotion, for groups of 10 participants upwards, runs until end-March 2014. The most popular team activity is the resort's culinary challenge. Other events include meetings, retreats and company dinner & dance parties.

Currently, corporate users are mainly from Singapore, including MNCs such as Procter and Gamble and Unilever, and Singapore government-linked companies.

Kavitha Velusamy, from P&G International Operations Singapore branch, says the beauty care team selected Montigo Resorts, Nongsa for its proximity and convenient location.

"Travel time to the destination is short and it is a good place to relax. The villas can accommodate larger groups, and can host a barbecue at the top level, which is unique," says Velusamy.

Among incentive treats are a sunset yacht cruise for up to 14 guests and a unique group spa treatment room for up to six people in a century-old Sumatran hut. Other group activities include bike trails, fishing trips, water sports, mangrove and firefly spotting tours and golf.

Private transfers can be arranged by yacht for 10 guests or chartered ferry for a large group of 100 people.

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